

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A welding wire storage device for a welding system, including a housing (42) with a wire core (43) surrounding the welding wire (13) being arcuately arranged to lie freely in a free space (45) of the housing (42), wherein one end of the wire core (43) is fixed in an end region of the housing (42) and a measuring means (44) is provided to detect the deflection of the wire core (43), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wire core (43) is displaceably mounted in a guide element (46) on the opposite end region, and ~~that~~ two coupling mechanisms (48, 49) for connection with a wire guide hose (50) for the wire core (23) are arranged on the housing (42).

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A welding wire storage device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling mechanisms (48, 49) are each designed as a quick-lock.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A welding wire storage device according to claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein elements

(51) for delimiting the maximum deflection of the wire core (43) are arranged in the housing (42).

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A welding wire storage device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ ~~claim 1, wherein~~ an element (57) for fastening the hose pack (23) is arranged on the opposite side of the free space (45) of the housing (42).

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A welding wire storage device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ ~~claim 1, wherein~~ the housing (42) is arranged between a welding apparatus (1) or wire feeder (11) and a welding torch (10), wherein the hose pack (23) is arranged directly, without interruption, between the welding apparatus (1) or wire feeder (11) and the welding torch (10), and wherein the wire core (43) is interrupted in the housing (42.)